

Normand Chouinard
HB 5326

I am writing in opposition to HB 5326, the misnamed AN ACT CONCERNING COMPASSIONATE AID IN DYING FOR TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS.

There are many reasons to consider this legislation a direct threat to the weakest among us and indirectly to all of us. I will give you my 2 reasons.

Consider my parents (now deceased) and my disabled daughter. Anyway you look at this, the proposed law creates an incentive to die under certain conditions, not the least of which to those who through a medical or geriatric issue are thought to be a burden.

This thinking is hardly limited to the individual in question. Other parties have incentive to make the problem go away permanently. This legislation will quickly have the effect of creating a duty to die for people who are already weakened or unable to protect themselves. My daughter with Down Syndrome could easily be convinced to acquiesce to this. My elderly parents would have been vulnerable as well. There is no protection able to be written into any law of this nature which can prevent this abuse from happening. You might as well write an amendment telling people to cease being selfish.

This is a horrible path which further intrudes on the unalienable right to life we share. Our human dignity should never be a function of our abilities. Human dignity is part of our shared essential nature. It is a right endowed by the Creator and not subject to human choice (i.e. no unalienable right to suicide).

I hope and pray that you reject HB 5326.

Yours in Christ,

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